

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIMA 04306 262100Z

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SS-15 L-03 CAB-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 NSC-05

SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 /046 W
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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5294

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMA 4306 SECTION 2 OF 2

5. HEARING OF MY REQUEST FOR AN APPOINTMENT WITH HIM, GARCIA BEDOYA LATER INVITED ME INTO HIS OFFICE FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF MATTER. HE WENT BEYOND FOREIGN MINISTER'S REQUEST AND ASKED THAT, IN VIEW OF FACT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS WILLING TO RENEW NEGOTIATIONS AT GOVERNMENTAL LEVEL, USG SUSPEND CAB ORDER AND KEEP PRESIDENTIAL DECISION "IN A DESK DRAWER". I TOLD GARCIA BEDOYA I WOULD ALSO TRANSMIT HIS SUGGESTION IN MY CABLE BUT INFORMED HIM IN VERY CLEAR AND UNEQUIVOCAL TERMS THAT THERE IS LESS THAN ONE CHANCE IN A HUNDRED THAT THE CAB ORDER COULD BE STAYED AT THIS MOMENT. I POINTED OUT THAT THE POLITICAL SIDE OF THE HOUSE, INCLUDING MYSELF, HAD USED UP ABOUT ALL THE CREDIT IT HAS IN HOLDING BACK FOR SO LONG A REQUIRED, PROPER, LEGAL RESPONSE BY THE CAB TO PERU'S UNILATERAL ACTION IN RESTRICTING BRANIFF. I TOLD HIM WE HAD GIVEN HIM, PRIME MINISTER, AIR MINISTER, DE LA FLOR, AND INDEED ALL INVOLVED, CLEAR ADVANCE WARNING OF THIS IMPENDING ACTION WHICH COULD ONLY HAVE BEEN AVOIDED THROUGH SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS. I POINTED OUT TO HIM HOW THE FLEXIBILITY IN PERU'S POSITION THAT HE AND OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAD PROMISED HAD NOT MATERIALIZED. I SAID THAT IN MY VIEW THE BEST WE COULD HOPE FOR WAS A LID ON PUBLICITY. WHEN I ASKED WHEN I COULD COME BY TO DELIVER MY NOTE TOMORROW, HE SAID "AS LATE AS POSSIBLE" IN OBVIOUS HOPE THAT IN MEANTIME USG WOULD AGREE TO STAY OF EXECUTION. NO DEFINITE TIME WAS SET.

6. COMMENT: NEEDLESS TO SAY, WE SUPPORT STRONGLY DE LA FLOR'S
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PAGE 02 LIMA 04306 262100Z

REQUEST FOR NO PUBLICITY. PUBLICITY IS BOUND TO COMPLICATE

FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS, ALTHOUGH WE ARE PREPARED TO LIVE WITH IT
IF NECESSARY. I ALSO RECOMMEND THAT IF AT ALL POSSIBLE WE
ACCEDE TO GOP'S REQUEST THAT NEGOTIATIONS AT LEAST START IN
LIMA. THIS APPEARS TO US TO BE RELATIVELY SMALL CONCESSION
WHICH MAY IN FACT HELP US TO REACH AN ACCEPTABLE CONCLUSION
AND MAY PERMIT A LITTLE FACE SAVING ON PART OF DE LA FLOR AND
OTHER RESPONSIBLE PERUVIAN OFFICIALS. I PRESENT GARCIA BEDOYA'S
SUGGESTION FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH AND WITH THE CAVEATS I POINTED
OUT TO HIM. I WILL DELIVER NOTE SOME TIME TOMORROW AFTERNOON
UNLESS OTHERWISE INSTRUCTED.
DEAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LIMA04306
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750518/aaaaapnl.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 11 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <16 OCT 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: n/a
To: SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006